

Blanco Ranger District 220 E Market Street Meeker, CO 81641	 <b>United States Department of Agriculture</b>	 
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## **CARHART TRAIL #1815**

<b>Difficulty:</b> Moderate	<b>Trail Use:</b> Heavy
<b>Length:</b> 5.3 miles	<b>Elevation:</b> Starts at 9,591' ends at 9,591'; the trail is a loop (highest point 9,949')
<b>Elevation Gain:</b> + 358' – 358' = +0'	<b>Open To:</b> HIKING, HORSEBACK RIDING

### **Access:**

The Carhart Trail is located 50 miles east of Meeker. From Meeker, take State Highway 13 east for 1 mile.

**Where Highway 13 turns north, turn east on Rio Blanco County Road 8 for 39 miles.**

Turn south on the Trappers Lake Road (FDR 205) for 10 miles to the Outlet Trailhead.

The Carhart Trail may be accessed from any of the Trappers Lake parking areas. The trail is approximately 1/4 mile from any of these parking areas.

### **Trail Highlights:**

The Carhart Trail circles the lake close to the shore on the east and north sides providing fishing access. On the west and south sides the trail is away from the lake up to 1.3 miles at its furthest point. The Carhart Trail accesses the Stillwater Trail to the east, the Trappers Lake Trail to the south and the Wall Lake Trail to the west.

Trappers Lake in Northwest Colorado's Flat Tops Wilderness is renown as the birthplace of the wilderness concept. This trail is named for Arthur Carhart whose innovative ideas about wilderness were inspired by his visit to Trappers Lake. Arthur Carhart helped set the stage for the Wilderness Preservation System in the United States today.

**ETHICS/REGULATIONS:** The Carhart Trail is in the Flat Tops Wilderness, please educate yourself about Wilderness Ethics. Know the following rules:

- **DOGS:** Possessing a dog or other animal that is harassing wildlife or people or damaging property is prohibited. There is no leas law in the Flat Tops, however dogs must be kept under verbal control at all times.
- **TRASH: PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT** -- even biodegradable items like fruit peels!
- Limit group size to 10 people and 15 stock/pack animals or less
- **SANITATION** - bury human waste 100 feet from trails and water and 6 inches in the soil or pack it out along with toilet paper.
- Above tree line camp stoves with a shut-off valve are the only fire sources allowed. Do not plan on using a campfire for cooking or warmth! Pack accordingly.

**WILDERNESS AREAS** are in a delicate state of natural balance, they are not renewable resources. Any careless act upsets this natural balance and destroys the beauty found in the Wilderness. By following Wilderness ethics and regulations you can protect and preserve the natural qualities of the Wilderness for future visits. **PLEASE, RESPECT THE LAND AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS!**



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